GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:95
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2007
PENDING HORTICULTURE PROPOSALS OF MAHARASHTRA
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many proposals of farmers of Maharashtra are pending with National Horticulture Board (NHB);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to simplify this procedure;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(e) the details of the schemes implemented by National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD), NHB and other agencies of the Ministry;

(f) the funds provided for the purpose during the last three years and current financial year; and

(g) the achievements made during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Presently, 1100 proposals from Maharashtra State are pending with National Horticulture Board for sanction of subsidy under the scheme `Development of Commercial Horticulture for production & Post-Harvest Management`.

(c) & (d): the Government is simplifying the procedure of sanction as and when felt necessary. During 2006-07, Government has delegated the power of sanction and release of subsidy to State officers of NHB for projects costing up to Rs.20.00 lakh as compared to the earlier limit of Rs.10.00 lakh. Further, the NHB has exempted these projects from the purview of joint inspections and authorized the lending institutions except private banks & cooperatives (which are not public sectors) to conduct local inspections.

(e): The Scheme `Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storage/Storages for Horticulture Produce` is jointly implemented by NHB, National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD) and National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC). While NABARD provides refinance to the lending institutions and NCDC provides loan to the cooperatives, the NHB provides 25% back ended capital investment subsidy to the loanees. Such of the beneficiaries who do not raise loan from institutional sources, are given capital subsidy directly by NHB on completion of the projects.

(f) & (g): The funds provided and the achievement made for construction of cold storages in the State of Maharashtra during last three years and current financial year is given in Annexure.